

REMARKS

Please reconsider the application in view of the following remarks. Applicant thanks the Examiner for carefully considering this application.

Disposition of Claims

Claims 1-3, 5-20, and 22-25 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 15 are independent claims. Claims 2, 3, 5-14, 19, 20, 22, and 25 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1. Claims 16-18, 23, and 24 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 15.

Response to Advisory Action Mailed January 17, 2007

In the Advisory Action dated January 17, 2007, the Examiner states that “in the present invention, there is not just one single moving member that controls the liquid flow through at least two inlets, but that the spring 34 and the valve member 32 both move in order to control the liquid flow.” Applicant respectfully points out that the Examiner has again mischaracterized the language of independent claims 1 and 15. Claims 1 and 15 recite, in part, that “the valve controls liquid flow through the at least two inlets with a single moving member.” Because this is open ended claim language, there can be more than one moving member in the valve. However, the above limitations require that the valve has at least one single moving member *which controls liquid flow through at least two inlets*. As shown in Fig. 1, the position of a single moving member, the valve body 32, clearly controls liquid flow through two inlets.

The Examiner further states that, in U.S. Patent No. 6,402,052 (“Murawa”), “there is only one single moving valve member (106a or 106b) moving at any given time,

depending on the fluid pressure. When low pressure is applied, valve member 106a moves while valve member 106b sits against seat 118b, and when high pressure is applied, valve member 106b moves while valve member 106a sits against valve seat 118a. Therefore, depending on the inlet pressure, only one valve member is controlling the flow of the liquid through the two inlets.” Applicant respectfully points out that the Examiner has again mischaracterized the language of independent claims 1 and 15. As explained above, the above limitations require that the valve has a single moving member which controls liquid flow through at least two inlets. In Murawa, regardless of whether ball checks 116a, 116b move at the same time or not, the left ball check 116a cannot control liquid flow through right flow path 103b, and the right ball check 116b cannot control liquid flow through left flow path 103a. Thus, in Murawa, there is not any single moving member able to control liquid flow *through at least two inlets*, as required by the claim.

Because the Advisory Action dated January 17, 2007 included an explicit mischaracterization of the language of independent claims 1 and 15, reconsideration of the present application in view of the above and issuance of a Notice of Allowance, or the issuance of an Advisory Action properly addressing the pending claims, is respectfully requested.

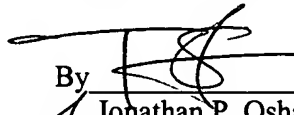
Conclusion

Applicant believes this reply to be responsive to all outstanding issues and place the application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or any other issues arise, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account No. 50-0591, under Order No. 17102/012001 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: January 26, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By

 #45,079
Jonathan P. Osha THOMAS SCHERER

Registration No.: 33,986

OSHA · LIANG LLP

1221 McKinney St., Suite 2800

Houston, Texas 77010

(713) 228-8600

(713) 228-8778 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant